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December 23, 2003

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CONFIRMATION

ARTICLE 19 AMENDMENT

Re	:	International application PCT/CA 03/00980
		Filed on 27/06/2003
Title	:	METHOD AND DEVICE FOR EFFICIENT IN-BAND DIM-AND-BURST SIGNALING AND HALF-RATE MAX OPERATION IN VARIABLE BIT-RATE WIDEBAND SPEECH CODING FOR CDMA WIRELESS SYSTEMS
Applicant	:	VoiceAge Corporation
Our Ref.	:	08241-106

Dear Sir:

This follows the reception of the International Search Report dated October 29, 2003.

Please find enclosed herewith a set of amended claims related to the above-noted PCT application. These amendments are made under Article 19.

Enclosed herewith is also a version of the original claims with markings showing the nature of the amendments.

More specifically, the claims have been amended as follows:

- Claims 8, 12, 14, 19, 20, 31, 35, 37, 42 and 43 have been deleted;

- Claims 1, 6, 10, 17, 21, 24, 29, 33, 40 and 44 have been amended; and

- Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 16, 18, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 39, 41, 45 and 46 are without change.
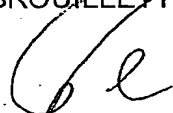
The following table indicates the correspondence between the new and original claims.

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ORIGINAL CLAIMS	NEW CLAIMS	ORIGINAL CLAIMS	NEW CLAIMS
1	1	24	19
2	2	25	20
3	3	26	21
4	4	27	22
5	5	28	23
6	6	29	24
7	7	30	25
8	DELETED	31	DELETED
9	8	32	26
10	9	33	27
11	10	34	28
12	DELETED	35	DELETED
13	11	36	29
14	DELETED	37	DELETED
15	12	38	30
16	13	39	31
17	14	40	32
18	15	41	33
19	DELETED	42	DELETED
20	DELETED	43	DELETED
21	16	44	34
22	17	45	35
23	18	46	36

Trusting the above to be in order, we look forward to receiving confirmation that the above amendments have been entered prior to international publication.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encls.

Brouillette Kosie Prince

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for interoperating a first station using a first communication
scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station
using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a
second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations
is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters from the coder of one of
the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second
stations, said method comprising:

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said
one station to the other station using a communication mode designed to reduce
bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters;

in response to said request, dropping a portion of the signal-coding
parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of
the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters, wherein dropping a
portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook
indices; and

regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and decoding,
in the decoder of said other station, the signal-coding parameters.

2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein receiving a request
comprises:

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said
one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

3. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the first communication
scheme is CDMA2000 VBR-WB and the second communication scheme is
AMR-WB.

4. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein decoding the signal-coding parameters comprises:

operating the decoder of said other station in a full-rate mode.

5   5. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises:

randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

6. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein:

10   regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises randomly regenerating the fixed codebook indices.

7. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein:

dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said

15   one station comprises inserting an identification of the communication mode; and

transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises transmitting to the decoder of said other station the communication mode identification along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

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8. A method as defined in claim 1, comprising, in the coder of said one station:

performing a fixed codebook search to determine a fixed codebook excitation; and

25   using the determined fixed codebook excitation for updating an adaptive codebook content and filter memories for next frames.

9. A method for interoperating a first station using a first communication scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station

30   using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations

is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters related to a sound signal from the coder of one of the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second stations, the method comprising:

classifying the sound signal to determine whether the signal-coding

5   parameters should be transmitted from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a first communication mode in which full bit rate is used for transmission of the signal-coding parameters;

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a second

10   communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of the signal-coding parameters;

when classification of the sound signal determines that the signal-coding parameters should be transmitted using the first communication mode, and when the request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using the second

15   communication mode is received, dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode, wherein dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook indices.

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10. A method as defined in claim 9, wherein receiving a request comprises:

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a half-rate

25   communication mode.

11. A method as defined in claim 9, wherein:

dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises inserting an identification of the second communication

30   mode; and

transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises transmitting to the decoder of said other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

5   12. A method as defined in claim 9, further comprising regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and decoding, in the decoder of said other station, said signal-coding parameters into the sound signal.

13. A method as defined in claim 12, wherein regenerating said portion of 10   the signal-coding parameters comprises randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

14. A method for transmitting signal-coding parameters from a first station to a second station, comprising:

15   in one of said first and second stations, coding the sound signal in accordance with a full-rate communication mode;

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station of said first and second stations using a second communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of said 20   signal-coding parameters;

in response to the request, converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode, wherein converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the 25   second communication mode comprises dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters, and wherein dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook indices; and

transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations.

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15. A method as defined in claim 14, wherein receiving the request comprises:

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

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16. A method as defined in claim 14, wherein:

converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

10   transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations comprises transmitting to the other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the non-dropped signal-coding parameters.

15   17. A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and, in the decoder of said other station, decoding said signal-coding parameters.

18. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein regenerating said portion of

20   the signal-coding parameters comprises randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

19. A system for interoperating a first station using a first communication scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station

25   using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters from the coder of one of the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second stations, said system comprising:

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters;

means for dropping, in response to said request, a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters, wherein the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices; and

means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and the decoder of said other station for decoding the signal-coding parameters.

20. A system as defined in claim 19, wherein the request receiving means comprises:

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

21. A system as defined in claim 19, wherein the first communication scheme is CDMA2000 VBR-WB and the second communication scheme is AMR-WB.

22. A system as defined in claim 19, comprising means for operating the decoder of said other station in a full-rate mode.

23. A system as defined in claim 19, wherein the means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises:

means for randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

24. A system as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for randomly regenerating the fixed codebook indices.

25. A system as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises means for inserting an identification of the communication mode; and

the means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises means for transmitting to the decoder of said other station the communication mode identification along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

26. A system as defined in claim 19, comprising, in the coder of said one station:

means for performing a fixed codebook search to determine a fixed codebook excitation; and

means for updating an adaptive codebook content and filter memories for next frames using the determined fixed codebook excitation.

27. A system for interoperating a first station using a first communication scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters related to a sound signal from the coder of one of the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second stations, the system comprising:

means for classifying the sound signal to determine whether the signal-coding parameters should be transmitted from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a first communication mode in which full bit rate is used for transmission of the signal-coding parameters;

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a

second communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of the signal-coding parameters;

means for dropping, when classification of the sound signal determines that the signal-coding parameters should be transmitted using the first

5   communication mode and when the request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode is received, a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode, wherein the means for dropping a portion of

10   the signal-coding parameters comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices.

28. A system as defined in claim 33, wherein the request receiving means comprises:

15   means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

29. A system as defined in claim 27, wherein:

20   the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises means for inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

the means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises means for transmitting to the decoder of said other station the

25   identification of the second communication mode along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

30. A system as defined in claim 27, further comprising means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and the decoder of

30   said other station for decoding said signal-coding parameters into the sound signal.

31. A system as defined in claim 30, wherein the means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

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32. A system for transmitting signal-coding parameters from a first station to a second station, comprising:

in one of said first and second stations, a coder for coding the sound signal in accordance with a full-rate communication mode;

10 means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station of said first and second stations using a second communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters;

means for converting, in response to the request, the signal-coding

15 parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode, wherein the means for converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters, and wherein the means

20 for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices; and

means for transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations.

25 33. A system as defined in claim 32, wherein the request receiving means comprises:

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

30 34. A system as defined in claim 32, wherein:

the means for converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises means for inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

5   the means for transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations comprises means for transmitting to the other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the non-dropped signal-coding parameters.

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35. A system as defined in claim 32, further comprising means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and the decoder of said other station for decoding said signal-coding parameters.

15   36. A method as defined in claim 35, wherein the means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for interoperating a first station using a first communication scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters from the coder of one of the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second stations, said method comprising:

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters;

in response to said request, dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters, wherein dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook indices; and

regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and decoding, in the decoder of said other station, the signal-coding parameters.

2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein receiving a request comprises:

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

3. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the first communication scheme is CDMA2000 VBR-WB and the second communication scheme is AMR-WB.

4. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein decoding the signal-coding parameters comprises:

operating the decoder of said other station in a full-rate mode.

5. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises:

randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

6. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein:

~~dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook indices; and~~

regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises randomly regenerating the fixed codebook indices.

7. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein:

dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises inserting an identification of the communication mode; and

transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises transmitting to the decoder of said other station the communication mode identification along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

~~8. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein:~~

~~dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises dropping fixed codebook indices and inserting an identification of the communication mode; and~~

~~transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises transmitting to the decoder of the other station the communication mode identification along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.~~

9. A method as defined in claim 1, comprising, in the coder of said one station:

performing a fixed codebook search to determine a fixed codebook excitation; and

5   using the determined fixed codebook excitation for updating an adaptive codebook content and filter memories for next frames.

10. A method for interoperating a first station using a first communication scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station

10   using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters related to a sound signal from the coder of one of the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second stations, the method comprising:

15   classifying the sound signal to determine whether the signal-coding parameters should be transmitted from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a first communication mode in which full bit rate is used for transmission of the signal-coding parameters;

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the

20   coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a second communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of the signal-coding parameters;

when classification of the sound signal determines that the signal-coding parameters should be transmitted using the first communication mode, and

25   when the request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode is received, dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode, wherein dropping a portion of the signal-coding

30   parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook indices.

11. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein receiving a request comprises:

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a half-rate

5   communication mode.

12. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein:

dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook indices.

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13. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein:

dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

15   transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises transmitting to the decoder of said other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

14. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein:

20   dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises dropping fixed codebook indices and inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises transmitting to the decoder of the other station the identification of the second

25   communication mode along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

15. A method as defined in claim 10, further comprising regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and decoding, in the decoder of said other station, said signal-coding parameters into the sound signal.

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16. A method as defined in claim 15, wherein regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

5   17. A method for transmitting signal-coding parameters from a first station to a second station, comprising:

in one of said first and second stations, coding the sound signal in accordance with a full-rate communication mode;

receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said 10   one station to the other station of said first and second stations using a second communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters;

in response to the request, converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the 15   second communication mode, wherein converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters, and wherein dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises dropping fixed codebook indices; and

20   transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations.

18. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein receiving the request comprises:

25   receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

19. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding 30   parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises:

dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters.

20. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises:

5   dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and inserting an identification of the second communication mode.

21. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein:

converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication

10   mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises dropping fixed codebook indices and inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations comprises

15   transmitting to the other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the remaining non-dropped signal-coding parameters.

22. A method as defined in claim 19, further comprising regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and, in the decoder of said other station,

20   decoding said signal-coding parameters.

23. A method as defined in claim 22, wherein regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

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24. A system for interoperating a first station using a first communication scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations

30   is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters from the coder of one of

the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second stations, said system comprising:

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a communication mode designed

5   to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters; .

means for dropping, in response to said request, a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters, wherein the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means

10   for dropping fixed codebook indices; and

means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and the decoder of said other station for decoding the signal-coding parameters.

25. A system as defined in claim 24, wherein the request receiving

15   means comprises:

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

26. A system as defined in claim 24, wherein the first communication

20   scheme is CDMA2000 VBR-WB and the second communication scheme is AMR-WB.

27. A system as defined in claim 24, comprising means for operating the decoder of said other station in a full-rate mode.

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28. A system as defined in claim 24, wherein the means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises:

means for randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

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29. A system as defined in claim 24, wherein:

~~the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices; and~~

the means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for randomly regenerating the fixed codebook indices.

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30. A system as defined in claim 24, wherein:

the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises means for inserting an identification of the communication mode; and

10 the means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises means for transmitting to the decoder of said other station the communication mode identification along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

15 ~~31. A system as defined in claim 24, wherein:~~

~~the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices and means for inserting an identification of the communication mode; and~~

20 ~~the means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters comprises means for transmitting to the decoder of the other station the communication mode identification along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.~~

25 32. A system as defined in claim 24, comprising, in the coder of said one station:

means for performing a fixed codebook search to determine a fixed codebook excitation; and

means for updating an adaptive codebook content and filter memories for 30 next frames using the determined fixed codebook excitation.

33. A system for interoperating a first station using a first communication scheme and comprising a first coder and a first decoder with a second station using a second communication scheme and comprising a second coder and a second decoder, wherein communication between the first and second stations

5   is conducted by transmitting signal-coding parameters related to a sound signal from the coder of one of the first and second stations to the decoder of the other of said first and second stations, the system comprising:

means for classifying the sound signal to determine whether the signal-coding parameters should be transmitted from the coder of said one station to

10.   the decoder of the other station using a first communication mode in which full bit rate is used for transmission of the signal-coding parameters;

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a second communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of

15   the signal-coding parameters;

means for dropping, when classification of the sound signal determines that the signal-coding parameters should be transmitted using the first communication mode and when the request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode is received, a portion of the

20   signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and transmitting to the decoder of the other station the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode, wherein the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices.

25

34. A system as defined in claim 33, wherein the request receiving means comprises:

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station to the decoder of the other station using a

30   half-rate communication mode.

35. A system as defined in claim 33, wherein:

the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices.

5   36. A system as defined in claim 33, wherein:

the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises means for inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

the means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters

10   comprises means for transmitting to the decoder of said other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

37. A system as defined in claim 33, wherein:

15   the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices and means for inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

the means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters

20   comprises means for transmitting to the decoder of the other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

38. A system as defined in claim 33, further comprising means for

25   regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and the decoder of said other station for decoding said signal-coding parameters into the sound signal.

39. A system as defined in claim 38, wherein the means for regenerating

30   said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.

40. A system for transmitting signal-coding parameters from a first station to a second station, comprising:

in one of said first and second stations, a coder for coding the sound signal in accordance with a full-rate communication mode;

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station of said first and second stations using a second communication mode designed to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters;

means for converting, in response to the request, the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode, wherein the means for converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters, and wherein the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices; and

means for transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations.

41. A system as defined in claim 40, wherein the request receiving means comprises:

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters from said one station to the other station using a half-rate communication mode.

42. A system as defined in claim 40, wherein the means for converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises:

means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters.

43. A system as defined in claim 40, wherein the means for converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises:

means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters from the coder of said one station and means for inserting an identification of the second communication mode.

44. A system as defined in claim 40, wherein:

the means for converting the signal-coding parameters coded in full-rate communication mode to signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode comprises means for dropping fixed codebook indices and means for inserting an identification of the second communication mode; and

the means for transmitting the signal-coding parameters coded in the second communication mode to the other of said first and second stations comprises means for transmitting to the other station the identification of the second communication mode along with the remaining non-dropped signal-coding parameters.

45. A system as defined in claim 42, further comprising means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters and the decoder of said other station for decoding said signal-coding parameters.

46. A method as defined in claim 45, wherein the means for regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises means for randomly regenerating said portion of the signal-coding parameters.